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JOHN H. HYBARGER  
BRAD NUREMBERG



## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

### **MINUTES**

Meeting of Thursday, January 16, 2003

6:00 p.m.

383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Room 374A  
(213) 974-9297

### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Sandra Aronberg, Vice Chair  
John Hybarger  
Brad Nuremberg

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Martha Littlefield

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Chanelle Davis, California State Department of Fish and Game  
Louise Fiorillo, California State Department of Fish and Game  
Rudy Ceballos, Hollenbeck Park  
Rebecca Barboza, California State Department of Fish and Game  
Monica Guaracha, California State Department of Fish and Game  
John Forgy, San Gabriel Valley Quail Unlimited  
Bob Bisell  
Kate McCurdy, National Park Service  
Richard Janson  
Karyl Ralles  
Michael Ralles  
Wade Hamel

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Vice Chairperson Aronberg called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 17, 2002**

**On motion of Commissioner Hybarger, seconded by Commissioner Nuremberg, the Commission unanimously approved the October 17, 2002 minutes.**

### **REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Vice Chairperson Aronberg reviewed the Commission's most recent Summary Report of Income, Expenditures and Fund Balance and reported a fund balance of \$153,262.78 as of December 31, 2002.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Vice Chairperson Aronberg announced that Chairperson is seriously ill and asked staff to send a card on the Commission's behalf.

Vice Chairperson Aronberg noted several communications including:

- Hollenbeck Recreational Center provided the Commission with an update of its activities
- California Department of Fish and Game submitted a letter outlining their intent to recommend to the State's Fish and Game Commission at their February 7, 2003 meeting the following 2003-04 deer hunt(s):
  1. A-31 Los Angeles Archery Antlerless Deer Hunt
  2. A-32 Ventura/Los Angeles Late Season Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunt
  3. J-13 Los Angeles Junior Either-Sex Deer Hunt
- California Department of Fish and Game provided an executive summary of its "ERRATA": Strategic Plan for Trout Management, July 2002 version
- California Department of Fish and Game's November 26, 2002 update regarding Bighorn Sheep Restoration Team and Related Activities

## **ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

### **Election of Chairperson**

On motion of Vice Chairperson Aronberg, seconded by Commissioner Hybarger, the Commission unanimously elected Brad Nuremberg as Chairperson.

### **Election of Vice Chairperson**

On motion of Commissioner Hybarger, seconded by Chairperson Nuremberg, the Commission unanimously approved re-elected Dr. Sandra Aronberg as Vice Chairperson.

## **REVISION OF THE DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

Jim Park, Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation, presented the revised draft Memorandum of Understanding which includes "signing" for the County urban lakes. Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation will partner with the California State Department of Fish and Game to secure funding to erect the signs. Once the draft is finalized, a copy will be submitted to the Commission. Mr. Park will submit a letter providing a time frame of the project's completion date.

## **GRANT REQUEST FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, SANTA MONICA NATIONAL RECREATION AREA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000**

Kate McCurdy, National Park Service, reported that Dr. Seth Riley was unable to attend and that she would be presenting the background information. The National Park Service has intensively monitored coyotes and bobcats in the Santa Monica Mountains since 1996, and collected information on space use and survival of urban coyotes and bobcats. Geographic areas studied include Thousand Oaks, Westlake Village, Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Chatsworth, and the urban areas surrounding the Recreation Area that fall within the Los Angeles City limits. Study objectives include assessing the status at the population-level, including information about demographics, vital rates, population size, and genetics; determining the effects of habitat loss, fragmentation; assessing barriers to movement; and determining a viable habitat linkage or movement corridor. Previous coyote studies in rural settings include one in Vancouver, B.C. that sought a non-lethal way to contain coyotes in the area. Commission staff received a call from Dan Fox, Animal Pest Management stating that studies of this nature have been conducted before and this study would be redundant. On motion of Commissioner Hybarger, second by Vice Chairperson Aronberg, the Commission duly denied the request of \$25,000 to investigate causes of conflict between coyotes and

humans in urban areas.

**GRANT REQUEST FROM CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME, RESTORATION TEAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,090**

Chanelle Davis, Wildlife Biologist, California Department of Fish and Game discussed the funding needs to capture, mark and release twenty bighorn sheep and to capture and place telemetry collars on mountain lions found in areas in or adjacent to the bighorn sheep. The purpose is to ascertain the seasonal distributions of the marked lions, develop information on prey items, develop an estimate of the lions in the eastern portion of the range, enhance detection of additional uncollared lions and provide opportunities to determine if some individuals are a greater threat to sheep than are other individuals. The Department recognizes an urgent need to gather information that can be used in charting a course for future actions to prevent the extermination of the Bighorn Sheep in the San Gabriel Mountains. On motion of Commissioner Aronberg, seconded by Commissioner Hybarger, the Commission unanimously approved requesting a written response from the California Department of Fish and Game providing an explanation of the use and availability of the state legislatively mandated bighorn sheep funds.

Based on the time frame to complete the study the Commission reviewed the request presented by Chanelle Davis, apart from the inquiry to the State Fish and Game. On motion of Commissioner Hybarger, seconded by Commissioner Aronberg, the Commission unanimously approved the funding the request of \$20,090 to implement the bighorn sheep study.

**GRANT REQUEST FROM STEVE HOLL FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$6,000 FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES REGARDING THE PREPARATION OF A CONSERVATION STRATEGY FOR THE NELSON'S BIGHORN SHEEP IN THE SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS**

Steve Holl's proposal describes a scope of work and cost estimate to provide professional services to the Los Angeles County Fish and Game Commission as its representative for preparation of a conservation strategy for Nelson's bighorn sheep in the San Gabriel Mountains. On motion of Commissioner Hybarger, seconded by Commissioner Aronberg, the Commission unanimously approved the Steve Holl's proposal to provide professional services to Los Angeles County Fish and Game Commission as its representative for preparation of a conservation strategy for Nelson's Bighorn Sheep in the San Gabriel Mountains at a cost of \$110 per hour and reimbursement for direct expenses in an amount not to exceed \$2,000 per month for a maximum of three months.

**APPROVAL OF STAFF TO ATTEND THE "BECOMING AN OUTDOORS WOMAN WEEKEND WORKSHOP APRIL 11-13, 2003 AT FEATHER RIVER INN IN PLUMAS COUNTY.**

This multi-course workshop accommodates 100+ participants, provides the knowledge of outdoor survival and is sponsored by the Department of Fish and Game. On motion of Commissioner Hybarger, seconded by Commissioner Nuremberg, the Commission unanimously approved payment of the \$200 workshop registration fee and travel expenses for an amount not to exceed \$500.

**MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA**

Commissioner Hybarger stated his concern regarding the direction of the California Department of Fish and Game, specifically, the significant funding cuts in hunting and fishing programs.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Louise Fiorillo reported that the cost of fishing licenses has gone up. She suggested the Commission review the fishing license process noting that license fees can only be increased on a cost of living basis and the current increases appear to exceed this limitation. She also reported that with California's budget crisis, there will be several cuts in fishing and hunting areas, especially the Fishing in the City program.

Commissioner Nuremberg stated that this is an issue that needs to be discussed with the Board of Supervisors along with the cutbacks in the urban fishing programs. On motion of Commissioner Hybarger, seconded by Commissioner Aronberg, the Commission unanimously declared this an urgent matter. **On motion of Commissioner Hybarger, seconded by Vice Chairperson Aronberg, the Commission unanimously approved sending a letter to advise the Board of Supervisors of the potential program cuts and its effects on Los Angeles County constituents.**

Dick Jansen advised the Commission that the Fishing Show in Long Beach is scheduled for March 5-9, 2003.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.